

Message Text

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11
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 SAM-01 PM-07 SP-03 INR-10

CIAE-00 DRC-01 RSC-01 /065 W
----- 118588

R 110532Z MAY 74
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3172
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO CINCPAC
USSAG
13TH ADVON
AMCONSUL UDORN
CINCSAC OFFUTT AFB
13TH AF PI
8TH AF GUAM
17TH AIR DIV UTAPAO
TAC LANGLEY AFB VA
OSAF WASHDC

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD
SECDEF FOR ASD/PA
OSAF FOR SAFOI

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, TH
SUBJ: US FORCE REDUCTIONS IN THAILAND

REF: BANGKOK 7533

1. GENERAL KRIANGSAK MAY 9 CONFIRMED RTG SUPREME COMMAND
INTEREST IN PRESS COVERAGE OF FIRST B-52 DEPARTURE
AND ENCOURAGING FAVORABLE PUBLICITY ON MOVEMENT OF
US AIRCRAFT.

2. KRIANGSAK PROPOSES TO FOLLOW UP GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENT
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MAY 10 BY FOREIGN OFFICE (REFTEL) WITH FURTHER PRESS

RELEASE EARLY WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 15, BANGKOK TIME.
EMBASSY OFFICERS SAID WE WOULD PLAN PARALLEL ANNOUNCEMENT
FOR SIMULTANEOUS RELEASE IN WASHINGTON TUESDAY EVENING,
MAY 14. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT TEXT, SUBJEC TO POSSIBLE MODI-
FICATION WITHIN RTG: BEGIN TEXT

IN ACCORDANCE WITH A REQUEST FROM THE ROYAL THAI
GOVERNMENT, THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY THAS CONFIRMED
THAT A UNIT OF THREE B-52 HEAVY BOMBER AIRCRAFT WILL
DEPART FROM UTAPAO RTAB ON MAY 15. ON SUCCESSIVE DAYS
SIX MORE B-52S WILL TAKE OFF FOR UNITED STATES DESTIN-
ATIONS. THIS IS A FURTHER STEP IN THE MAJOR REDEPLOY-
MENT OF US STRATEGIC AND TACTICAL AIRCRAFT, PRE-
VIOUSLY ANNOUNCED LAST MARCH FOLLOWING CONSULTATIONS
BETWEEN AMBASSADOR KINTNER AND PRIME MINISTER SANYA
DHAMMASAK. ALSO ON MAY 15 A SQUADRON OF 18 A-7 FIGHTER-
BOMBER AIRCRAFT WILL START MOVING FROM KORAT RTAFB
TO BASES IN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.

DURNG MAY A TOTAL OF MORE THAN FIFTY UNITED STATES
MILITARY AIRCRAFT WILL HAVE BEEN REDEPLOYED FROM THEIR
THAI STATIONS AT ROYAL THAI BASES AT KORAT AND UTAPAO.

FURTHER MOVEMENTS FOR US FORCES FROM THAILAND WILL BE
ANNOUNCED AS DETAILS ARE DEVELOPED IN THE CONTINUING
DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ROYAL THAI
GOVERNMENT AND THE UNITED STATES. END TEXT.

3. GENERAL KRIANGSAK IS EXPECTED TO REPRESENT THE RTG AND
GARLAND DEPARTING CREW MEMBERS OF FIRST B-52 CELL. NO
ELABORATE PLANE-SIDE CEREMONY IS PLANNED BY RTG, BUT SUPREME
COMMAND INDICATES THEY WILL MAKE SUBSTANTIAL EFFORT TO
ENSURE MAXIMUM COVERAGE BY THAI MEDIA. EMBASSY/CINCPAC/PA/
LNO ARE PROCEEDING TO ALERT US AND INTERNATIONAL MEDIA
REPRESENTATIVES TO COVER FIRST B-52 DEPARTURE.
MASTERS

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